

*Classified briefing held at Rep. John Hall's request*

*Washington, DC* – Congressman John Hall (NY-19) was briefed by federal officials today on how the suspect in the attempted bombing of Times Square was able to board an international flight. The classified briefing by agents for the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, and the Transportation Security Administration was provided to members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation, which oversees airline security issues, and of which Hall is a member.

Earlier this week Hall asked for the briefing to understand how alleged would-be bomber, Faisal Shahzad, was able to board a plane bound for Dubai before he was arrested by federal agents on May 3rd, despite his name being posted on the “No Fly” list.

Following today's briefing, Congressman Hall thanked Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Jerry Costello (Illinois-12) for responding so quickly to his request to hold the hearing. Hall called the briefing “productive” and said it provided a clear understanding of what needs to be done to further strengthen travel security systems.

Congressman Hall said he and other members of the committee will continue to work with the appropriate federal agencies to tighten the security system further, in order to make sure terrorist suspects are identified and apprehended before they pass through security and board a plane.